# Barn Bulletin, August 2025

## Summer is Winding Down at The Barn

It is hard to believe that we are in the middle of August. Summer at The Barn was filled with lots of excitement! For 6 weeks we shared many laughs and smiles with some AMAZING children. From summer snow ball fights, to water slide competitions, to bubble and karaoke parties, to music jam sessions, to surprise visits from enchanted unicorns and fairies, to painting our beautiful mini horses rainbow colors...it was a 6 week reminder of what is truly important! Our campers joyful smiles and belly giggles were so heart-warming. It is hard to explain what happens at Camp, but it is truly transformative. We owe so much thanks to our incredibly dedicated counselors and volunteers. Their love and compassion are awe inspiring. They are the reason why Camp Geronimo is so special. Many children grew and changed during their time at Camp Geronimo because of the love and support the counselors and volunteers shared. Our campers became more confident and realized they could do things they never imagined. It is an honor to be a part of such a special place and a privilege to share time with such wonderful children, families and volunteers. I know we often say this...but Barn Magic is real...it is all around us!





Now that camp has ended, we are getting ready to start our Fall programming and are so excited to welcome our New Program Director, Kelly Williams. She has been hard at work creating some innovative and super fun activities for our children and teens to enjoy this fall!



## Meet Kelly Williams, Our New Program Director

Kelly has been with The Barn as a Camp Director for several years and we are so delighted to have her join our team full time as the Program Director! Kelly is a certified Occupational Therapy Assistant. She has over ten years of experience working with children of all ages as a preschool teacher and time spent at the IU. Kelly has an abundance of programming experience and is excited to bring her knowledge and creativity to The Barn!

Are you looking to do something rewarding this fall?
Volunteer with us!

We are always looking for wonderful volunteers to help with our Individual Programs and socialization events.

To learn more email:

<a href="mailto:programs@springbrook-farm.org">programs@springbrook-farm.org</a>.



Fall Individual Program
& Teen Individual
Program spots still
available for Session 1 & 2!



<u>www.springbrook-farm.org/programs</u>

It's not too late to sign up for Fall IP and TIP! Session 1 begins next Monday, August 25 and runs through Friday, October 3rd.

Session 1: August 25 - October 3 Session 2: October 6 - November 14



To apply visit:

2025 Fall IP application

2025 Fall TIP application



### 2025 Annual Hoe Down Fundraiser

When the weather changes and skies turn to that beautiful pale autumn blue, we know it is time to mosey on over to The Barn for our annual Hoe Down! This fundraiser supports The Barn's mission to enhance the lives of children with disabilities through animal-assisted and nature-based experiences. We hope you can join us on October 11th for a rootin' tootin' good time.

This special evening is filled with good food, live music, a silent and live auction and best of all, community! It is a lovely event that brings our Barn family together for some good old-fashioned fun. Our guest speakers this year are Derrick and Julie Tennant whose story will inspire you!

Individual tickets are for sale at a cost of \$125 and sponsorship opportunities are also available. If you are interested in learning more about sponsoring our Hoe Down, please visit our website: 2025 Hoe Down at The Barn. Tickets may be purchased online or if you prefer to avoid transaction fees, you may choose to pay by check. Seating is limited. Sponsorships come with seated tickets.

Here is the link for ticket and donations: 2025 Hoe Down Fundraiser

Thank you all for your support of our programming and of the very special children and families we serve.

# THE BARN'S Annual Hoe Down SATURDAY | OCTOBER 11 | 6-9:30PM DINNER, DESSERT, WINE, BEER, SILENT/LIVE **AUCTION & MUSIC** Guest Emcee's Derrick & Julie Tennant 360 Locust Grove Rd. West Chester, PA 19382 610-793-1037 www.springbrook-farm.org/hoe-down

### In Loving Memory of Our Sweet Bonnie





For the last 17 years you have shown every child the meaning of unconditional love. Through endless grooming sessions, walks, and the occasional painting session, you stood proud and stoic, but most of all calm and understanding. You knew your job and you performed it with a style and grace that is unmatched. You brought so many smiles to the

forgotten! Thank you so much for everything sweet Bonnie girl!!



Funds raised from the Hoe Down subsidize programs that enrich the lives of children with disabilities through animal-assisted and nature-based experiences. These smiles say it all!









#### Celebrity Emcees, Derrick & Julie Tennant

Joining us again this year! Julie Tennant has Down Syndrome a condition caused by an "extra" chromosome. Her grampa said it wasn't extra, but everyone else is MISSING it.

#### He called it the LOVE Chromosome

Her brother Derrick Tennant, a gifted athlete, was progressing in his dream for a career in sports when one evening he laid down and did not wake up for three days. Paralyzed and in a coma, Derrick underwent brain surgery from which he became unable to move his left side. After years of therapy to re-learn basic life skills, he is still unable to use his left arm and walks with a limp Together, Julie and Derrick travel the world sharing their story and encouraging others to use obstacles as opportunities. Their motivational speaking events inspire everyone they meet, and The Barn is honored to have them at our Hoe Down

RSVP by Sept 25, 2025



